

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Phyllomedusa azurea*: Distribution extension.

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Phyllomedusa azurea Cope, 1862 (Figure 1), was recently revalidated and included in the species group of *Phyllomedusa hypochondrialis* (Daudin, 1800) by Caramaschi (2006). The geographic range of *P. azurea* was then published as the open formations of the Chacoan regions of Bolivia, Paraguay, and northern Argentina, and in the Pantanal and Cerrado regions of central Brazil (Caramaschi 2006; Frost 2007). Herein, we present the first record of *P. azurea* for the state of São Paulo, Brazil.



Figure 1. *Phyllomedusa azurea*. Arrows show three of the diagnostic characters of this species according to Caramaschi (2006). A, narrow white stripe on the upper lip, not reaching the lower eyelid; B, inguinal region and sides of members with black transversal bars over an orange or red background; C, wide green stripe along the dorsal surface of thighs.

Two calling males were heard and one was collected in the municipality of União Paulista (20°55'54" S, 49°56'41" W) by R. E. Borges and

F. R. Silva in 25 October 2006. The specimen was found perching on vegetation (Poaceae: *Brachiaria* sp.) within a permanent pond in a pasture area, ca. 350 m far from a semideciduous forest fragment. The pond has 3,118 m² of total area, 90 cm of maximum depth, and 70 % of plant cover (Poaceae). This record now represents the southeastern limit of the distribution of *P. azurea* (Figure 2), which is ca. 360 km from the nearest locality previously known for this species (Serranópolis, in the state of Goiás, Brazil 18°17'37" S, 51°58'10" W).

The voucher specimen was identified according to the diagnosis presented by Caramaschi (2006) and deposited in the *Coleção do Departamento de Zoologia e Botânica* (DZSJRP-16604) housed at UNESP, São José do Rio Preto, São Paulo, Brazil. According to Caramaschi (2006), the revalidation of *P. azurea* and the recognition of *P. nordestina* Caramaschi, 2006, both previously identified under the name *P. hypochondrialis*, demonstrate that three morphologically similar species are associated to three of the great morphoclimatic domains of South America (*sensu* Ab'Sáber 1977): *P. hypochondrialis* with Amazonian distribution, *P. nordestina* associated to the Caatinga region, and *P. azurea* occurring in the Cerrado-Caatinga-Chaco complex (Ceia 1980; Caramaschi 2006; Frost 2007). The record of *P. azurea* in the northwestern region of São Paulo evidences the necessity of additional anuran surveys, even in a well studied region (i.e., previously investigated in Vizotto 1967; Bernarde and Kokubum 1999; Rossa-Feres and Jim 2001; Vasconcelos and Rossa-Feres, 2005; Santos et al. 2007; Santos and Rossa-Feres 2007).

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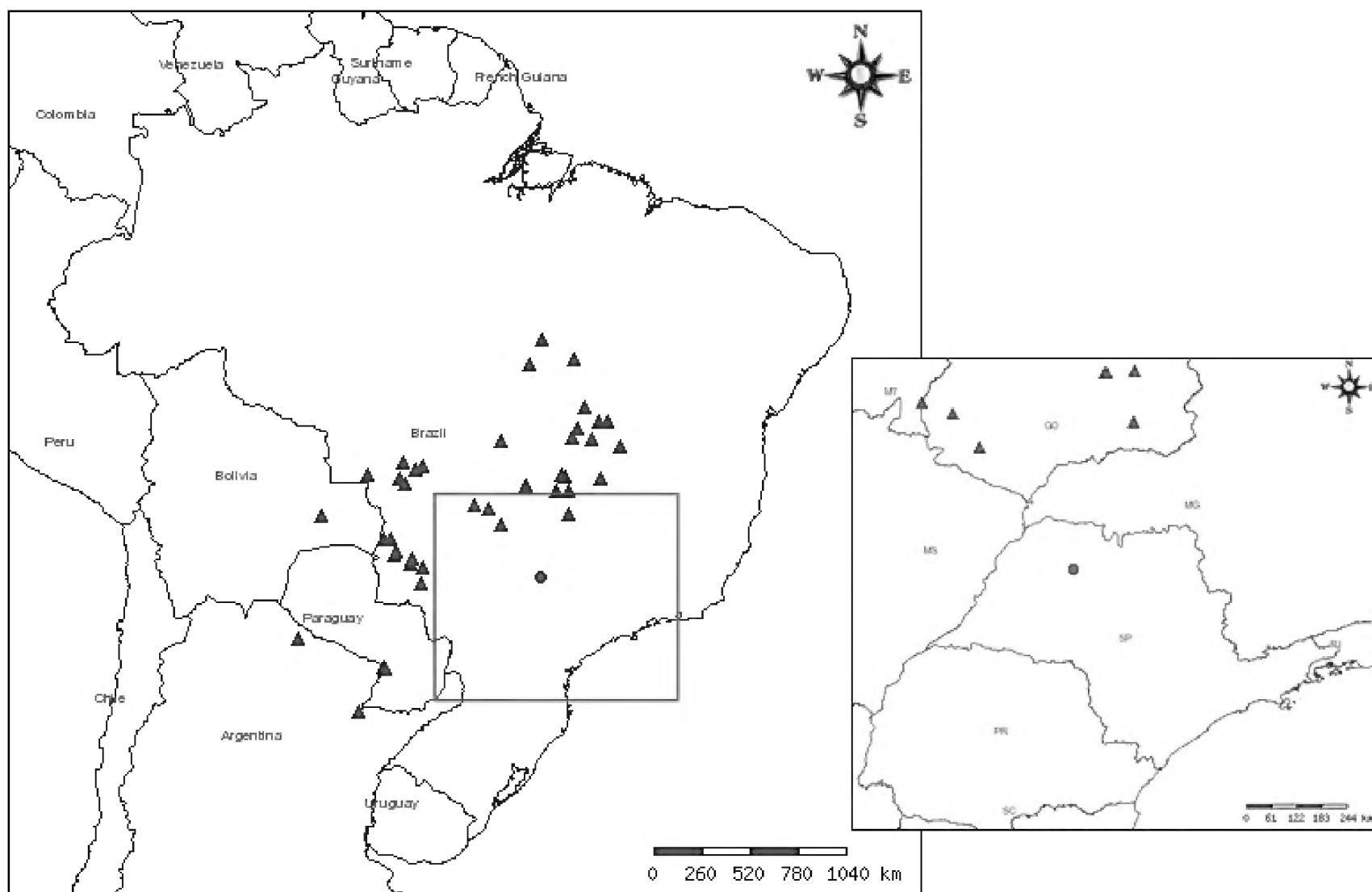


Figure 2. Distribution map for *Phyllomedusa azurea* with the new record for the municipality of União Paulista, State of São Paulo, Brazil (red dot).

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